

# Northfield Wayfinding - Site Visit Notes

**March 30, 2023**

## *Attendees*

Debbie Zuaro  
Kim Caldwell  
Colin Bright  
Emily Lewis  
Dan Mallach

## **Overall Considerations**

1. For now, based on funding: 2 larger, 5 smaller (kiosks, wayfinding signs– the terminology is interchangeable for now). Style/content should be able to be replicated/adapted to additional sites. May have additional signage attached to street signs, pedestrian oriented, within the forest, at either end of Village/Town with distance
2. Larger kiosks will have room for photos, more place history, ecology, etc.
3. See [Timberhomes](#) for kiosk style ideas
4. Consider signs north (Northfield Falls) and south (Mobil/64) directing to amenities.
5. Action Item: discuss the orientation (N, E) of primary wayfinding map
6. A "ski trail map" is an example of a viewer-oriented map with North on the left.
7. Town Forest itself needs better internal wayfinding (legible/organized blaze system); distance to specific locations
8. Review VAST trails for connectivity

## **Locations Visited**

1. Town Common
  - Bus shelter location not obvious to the west of the common, with no crossing, but has area info posted in the shelter
  - Tree/hydrant Area at northeast corner likely spot for wayfinding sign (trim broken branch)
  - "Sign" can be a form of art, permanent or rotating, locally-designed, but with consistent wayfinding information.
  - Sign could be table-top info style
  - Try a temporary sign installation to determine locations, type
  - Stay off of the main green area (farmers market, etc.)
2. Library
  - Location for 1 of the 2 larger kiosks, with photos and more info (trails, pond)
    - On Slate, at side of library along sidewalk
  - Onsite parking for library only

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- Road-sign "add-on" at corner of Slate and Main for Town Forest (like Dog River Park, Pool, Memorial Park)
  - Distance to Town Forest
3. Top of Slate Avenue (Town Forest Access)
- Norwich ownership of entrance area
  - Directional signage before gate, more information after gate at bench landing
  - Parking information/organization needed
4. Byam Hill (Town Forest Access)
- No parking up top, residents don't want turnarounds in driveways either
  - Need a sign at bottom of the hill (junction with Highland) to note lack of parking and turnaround at top of hill; with directions to where parking is available
  - Kiosk would be placed further up the access road when reach Town Forest along with replacing the gate
  - Smaller sign at lower gate
5. Green Mountain Family Practice (Town Forest Access)
- 4 designated parking spaces available for Town Forest at south end of lot (to the right when driving in)
  - Trail access up to town forest at the northeast corner of the building is not obvious
  - Sign at Crescent directing to trails and parking? Coordinate with crossings.
  - Future sidewalk continuation from GMF up to Shaw Center
6. Shaw Center (Town Forest Access)
- Norwich may redo building; private/public use may change
  - Trail access at rear of site, behind building.
  - Also access road to south of building
  - 2 of 2 larger kiosk could go near trash can at north side of building
  - Sign at Crescent and Main directing to trails and parking? Coordinate with crossings.
  - Small signs at trail heads?
7. Barrows/Kingston Roads (Town Forest Access)
- Vehicle access difficult, but hiking entry to forest is relatively flat (compared with other Town Forest entrances)
  - The trail locations are unclear in this portion of the forest